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REVIEW OF THE

Memoirs of the Life of Granville Sharp.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 152.)

Mr. SHARP ever entertained profound veneration for the doctrines and Liturgy of the Church of England. In a note appended to his tract entitled "The Law of Retribution," printed in 1776, he maintained the right of the clergy and people of every diocese, to elect their own bishops, alleged in proof of it, the practice of the church for five hundred years after its commencement, and concluded by a few remarks on the importance of Episcopacy, styling it in the emphatic language of the English common law, the strength of the republic, (*ordo Episcoporum est robur republicei.*)

The powerful influence of this publication not only upon churchmen, but also upon dissenters in America, led Mr. Sharp subsequently to consider the establishment of Episcopacy in this country, as one of the remarkable effects produced by the exertions of the Quakers and himself against slavery, though neither had the least idea of any such consequence arising from their united labours.

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The sentiments excited by the tract to which we have alluded, were confirmed and rendered active by two of a later date, the one "On Congregational Courts," and the other, on "The Election of Bishops." But we pass the record of Mr. Sharp's proceedings in reference to this subject, and proceed to the history of his efforts for purposes of more unequivocal and general philanthropy.

It is not surprising that the aid of one, so emphatically the friend of mankind, should have been frequently sought. The chief justice of Canada enclosed to him a letter for the primate of England, praying for a grant of lands and buildings for a Protestant college at Montreal; and a clergyman in Vermont, solicited him to make exertions to establish Episcopacy in that state.

With his usual sagacity, Mr. Sharp looked far into the future prospects of America, and rejoiced in every indication of the growth of knowledge and virtue in a Continent, which seemed to him destined to rival and even surpass in glory, all the kingdoms of the European world. Among his papers were found the following stanzas, from the pen of Dr. Berkley, bishop of Cloyne, "On the prospect of planting arts and learning in America." The sentiment they contain is now seen to have been prophetic: and we insert the poem for the gratification of our readers:

"The muse, disgusted at an age and clime
Barren of every glorious theme,
In distant lands now waits a better time,
Producing subjects worthy fame.

In happy climes, where from the genial sun
And virgin earth such scenes ensue,
The force of art by nature seems outdone,
And fancied beauties by the true:

In happy climes, the seat of innocence,
Where nature guides and virtue rules,
Where men shall not impose for truth and sense
The pedantry of courts and schools:

There shall be sung another golden age,
The rise of empire and of arts,
The good and great inspiring epic rage,
The wisest heads and noblest hearts.

Not such as Europe breeds in her decay;
Such as she bred when fresh and young.

When heavenly flame did animate her clay,
By future Poets shall be sung.

Westward the course of empire takes her way,
The four first acts already past;
A fifth shall close the drama with the day,
Time's noblest offspring is the last."

In 1783, Mr. Sharp's sensibilities were again awakened in behalf of the poor Africans by private information, that one hundred and thirty slaves had been atrociously murdered, by the master of the ship *Zong*, in November, 1781. This vessel had left the coast of Africa in the preceding September, for Jamaica, having on board four hundred and forty slaves and fourteen whites. The voyage having been prolonged, as was alleged, in consequence of the captain's having mistaken Jamaica for Hispaniola, and the crowded state of the ship having produced a great mortality, and the water being scarce, it was proposed by the said captain, that the slaves who were most reduced by disease, should be thrown into the sea: for if this were done with a sufficient plea of necessity, the loss it was said, would fall on the underwriters, otherwise it must be sustained by the owners. To extinguish life thus suddenly, was also represented as less cruel, than to suffer the sick to linger out a wretched existence. This horrible measure, though at first opposed by the mate, was finally carried into execution.

The particulars of this enormous crime, were brought to light during the pecuniary controversy between the owners and underwriters: and on the first trial, surprising as it may appear, the verdict of the jury was in favour of the owners. A new trial being granted, Mr. Sharp was present. It was contended by the solicitor general, (Lee,) for the owners, that the only question was, whether the deed was voluntary, or of necessity. "This is a case of *goods or chattels*. For the purpose of insurance, they are *goods* and *property*. The real question is, whether or not they were thrown overboard for the preservation of the rest." Observing Mr. Sharp, he violently exclaimed to the judges, that a person was in court who intended to bring on a criminal prosecution for murder against the parties concerned. But, said he, it would be *madness*. On the other side, it was contended by Messrs. Davenport, Pigot, and Heywood, that there existed no such necessity as was inevitable, and that no exigency (since the

life of one man was like the life of another) would justify the deed. Lord Mansfield, while he pronounced the case *a very shocking one*, seems to have adopted the opinion of the solicitor general, and Mr. Sharp failed of bringing punishment on the perpetrators of this horrid tragedy. But his virtuous indignation did not sleep. He gave a detailed and very impressive account of the whole affair, in a letter to the lords of the admiralty, and inclosed this letter in the following, to his grace the duke of Portland:

"OLD JEWRY, July 18, 1783.

"MY LORD:

"In the year 1772, when lord North was his majesty's first minister, I stated in a letter to his lordship, some unquestionable proofs of the necessity of abolishing the slave-trade. Since that time, the much greater part of our colonial dominions have been severed from the British empire: but the most enormous of all our national iniquities, the slave-trade, is still established in the small remains of our colonial possessions. As a proof of the extreme depravity which the slave-trade introduces amongst those that become inured to it, I have enclosed the copy of a letter which was sent to the lords of the admiralty in the beginning of the present month, with an account of the murder of one hundred and thirty-two negro slaves, on board the ship *Zong*, or *Zung*, a Liverpool trader. The original vouchers are now at the admiralty, and I have not yet received any answer respecting them. The punishment of that murder, belongs properly to the admiralty department, and therefore I do not apply to your grace on that account; but only wish, by the horrible example related in the enclosed papers, to warn your grace, that there is an absolute necessity to abolish the slave-trade and West India slavery; and that "to be in power, and to neglect, as life is very uncertain, (and I may add, the tenure of office,) *even a day*, in endeavouring to put a stop to such *monstrous injustice and abandoned wickedness*, must necessarily endanger a man's *eternal welfare*, be he ever so great in *temporal dignity* or office." This was my warning to lord North eleven years ago."

But though the immediate object proposed by Mr. Sharp was not accomplished, yet the cause of freedom gained perhaps no less from his defeat, than it would have done from his victory:

"The deduction that was to be formed from the scene that had passed, was too obvious not to suggest itself even to the dullest observer. A high court of English judicature had heard one of the great organs of the law avow the case, in which he asserted, "*that so far from the guilt of any thing like a murderous act*, in casting one hundred and thirty-two living and unoffending human creatures into the sea, to perish there, *so far from any show or suggestion of cruelty*, there was not even a *surmise of impropriety* in the transaction; and that *to bring a charge of murder* against those who had acted this part of uncontrouled power, into an English court of law, would *argue nothing less than madness* in him who brought it thither. To what could this

stigma on the juridical code of England be ascribed? Not surely to the natural feelings in the heart of the great lawyer who pronounced it. That would be to impute to him an obduracy, an insensibility to human emotions, too gross to have found its way to so honoured and elevated a situation. The reverse was evident. He declared, as his great professional learning instructed him, the actual condition of the *law* in *England*, relative to the question before him, and asserted that it authorized the statement he had made; namely, that there existed the case, in which there was no legal impropriety in deliberately casting our unoffending and defenceless fellow-creatures into the sea, fettered and prevented from all hopes of succour. Where was the heart so hard, or the head so inaccessible that did not instantly take part against such a state of things, in a country, of which the enlightened laws and impartial justice, were acknowledged as the boasts of human wisdom, and the patterns of human freedom?"

This view of the case, was eagerly seized by the sagacity of Mr. Sharp. Besides the letter to the lords of the admiralty, he employed every means in his power, to give the utmost publicity to the circumstances that had happened, and the arguments that had been employed. He sent an account of the whole transaction to the newspapers; he handed about a copy of the minutes (which he had procured in short hand) of the trial, and of the speeches on both sides. He was also unwearied in diffusing his powerful and unanswerable remarks on the flagrant enormity of the case, which had been so strenuously vindicated. And perhaps the cause of African freedom may thus reckon among the most effective instruments of its support, the masterly and successful arguments of the solicitor general, in the barbarian triumph upheld on that occasion, over reason and human feelings, as well as over the otherwise enlightened policy of England.

The deep impression made upon the public mind, by the disinterested efforts and able writings of the subject of these memoirs, on this occasion, is evident from two affecting letters received by him, from the bishops of Peterborough and Chester, both of whom expressed their unqualified approbation of his proceedings, and their sympathising concern for his entire success. The latter of these, Dr. Porteus, (afterwards bishop of London) advocated the cause of the natives of Africa, in a sermon delivered before the society for the propagation of the Gospel; and ever continued to evince a solicitude for the abolition of the slave-trade, worthy of his own character and the importance of the object.

The influence which Mr. Sharp had acquired by the excellence of his life, is well illustrated by the following anecdote: A native

of Otaheite had been enticed on board of an English vessel, and brought to England. "Being an expert swimmer and diver, his skill had been very profitably employed during the voyage, in the capture of seals, of which he had succeeded in killing a great number. The master of the vessel refused to pay him for his services, and the owners declared, that they would spend £ 500 rather than allow him a farthing. Information of this having reached Mr. Sharp, he called on a friend of the poor stranger, stated to him the course he should pursue, and observed, if any subscription became necessary, that his name might be set down at the head of the list for two guineas. No sooner, however, were the merchants informed that Mr. Sharp's sanction had been obtained for proceeding against them, than they proposed a settlement by arbitration, and the Otaheitan was adjudged, by the person selected by themselves, the compensation solicited; which was that of an ordinary seaman, amounting in all to about £ 30." "Of such value," says Mr. Hoare, "was the *nominis umbra*."

The intense and vigilant concern felt by Mr. Sharp, in the great event of the American revolution, traceable, as it unquestionably was, to his sacred regard to the rights and interests of humanity, prompted him, after the Declaration of Independence, anxiously to watch the progress of our infant nation, and to contribute, as far as possible, to literary and religious improvement. Hence, he sent presents of books to most of the colleges and public libraries, and indeed to all the principal places in our country. It was probably some donation of this kind, which called forth the following acknowledgment from the acting officers of the African church in Philadelphia:

"Philadelphia, November 25, 1782.

"WORTHY AND RESPECTED SIR:

"We want words to express our gratitude to you, for all your labours of love to our afflicted nation. You were our advocate when we had but few friends on the other side of the water. We request of you to accept of our thanks for all your kind and benevolent exertions in behalf of the people of our colour, and in particular, for your late humane donation to our church.

Our prayers shall not cease to ascend to the Father of all mercies, and God of all grace, for your health and happiness in this world, and for your eternal happiness in the world to come."

Mr. Hoare observes, "Besides the valuable presents of books, to the American libraries, he extended his views to various regulations, which he conceived might be most useful to an advancing state, and he communicated them to the leading statesmen of that continent.

The following extracts from letters addressed to him about this time, by several of our eminent countrymen, will show the high place which he held in their estimation:

DR. FRANKLIN TO GRANVILLE SHARP.

"Passy, July 5, 1785.

"DEAR SIR:

"I received the books you were so kind as to send; please to accept my hearty thanks. Your writings, which always have some public good for their object, I always read with pleasure. I am perfectly of your opinion with respect to the salutary law of Gavelkind, and hope it may in time be established throughout America. In six of the states already, the lands of intestates are divided equally among the children, if all girls; but there is a double share to the eldest daughter; I think there should be no distinction.

I am departing for America, where I shall be glad occasionally to hear from you, and of your welfare, being, with sincere and great esteem, &c. &c.

B. FRANKLIN."

HIS EXCELLENCY J. ADAMS TO MR. G. SHARP.

"Grosvenor Square, March 8, 1786.

"SIR:

"You have merited the respect and esteem of all men, among whom liberty and humanity are not disregarded, by your writings. The idea that captives in war are slaves, is the foundation of the misfortunes of the negroes. This principle is honoured and admitted by all the powers of Europe, who pay tribute to the states of Barbary. I expect that one part of Africa will avenge upon my fellow-citizens, the injury they do to another, by purchasing their captives. Yet, I presume, we shall be compelled to follow the base example of submission, and pay tributes or make presents, like the rest of christians, to Musselmen. I wish you would take up this African system, and expose it altogether. Never, never will the slave-trade be abolished, while christian princes abase themselves before the piratical ensigns of Mahomet.

With great esteem, &c.

JOHN ADAMS."

DR. FRANKLIN TO GRANVILLE SHARP.

"Philadelphia, June 9, 1787.

"SIR:

"The Pennsylvania Society for promoting the abolition of slavery, and the relief of free negroes unlawfully held in bondage, have taken the liberty to request your acceptance of a few copies of their constitution, and the laws of Pennsylvania, which relate to one of the objects of their institution.

From a most grateful sense of the zeal and abilities with which you have long and successfully defended the claims of the oppressed Africans, the society have done themselves the honour of enrolling your name in the number of their corresponding members; and they earnestly request the continuance of your labours in the great object of their institution; for in this business, the friends to humanity in every country, are of one nation and religion.

I am, in behalf of the society, &c.

B. FRANKLIN."

HIS EXCELLENCY JOHN JAY TO GRANVILLE SHARP.

"New-York, September 1, 1788.

"SIR:

"The society established in this city, for promoting the manumission of slaves, &c. did, at their last meeting admit you an honorary member of it. And I have now the pleasure of transmitting to you, herewith enclosed, a certified extract from the minutes, on the subject. Be pleased, sir, to consider this as a mark of the esteem and respect with which your exertions in the cause of humanity have inspired them; and permit me to assure you, that with similar sentiments, I have the honor to be, &c. &c.

JOHN JAY, *President.*"

Not only individuals and humane societies in America, but literary institutions also rendered to Mr. Sharp their public testimonials of respect. The universities of Providence, Rhode Island, of Cambridge, Mass. and Williamsburg, Virginia, severally admitted him to the degree of *Doctor of Laws*. The presidents of these institutions announced the honours to which he was judged entitled, in terms most expressive of a deep sense of his worth, and of the highest personal esteem.

Thus have we seen an obscure individual, undistinguished by the gifts of fortune, rising to a height of respectability and usefulness, far above the nobles and princes of his age; and while attracting by his virtues the admiration of the world, wearing meekly and humbly as a child, its honours. Among the excellencies which elevated him to so lofty an eminence, we have mentioned his CONSCIENTIOUSNESS and INDUSTRY, and we may add to these, his DECISION and INTREPIDITY. With a heart compassionate and tender as ever beat in a human bosom, his principles were firm as the rock, on which they rested; and in their defence, he was bold as a lion. His penetrating intellect, discerned through all the errors and sophistry by which they were incumbered, the foundations of human duty, and clearing away false principles, sought to bring back society to those simple moral truths, which alone constitute the safe and durable basis of social and political institutions. The light by which he investigated all the relations and duties of private and civil life, was the Revelation of God. His DECISION resulted from his entire submission to the Divine Word. His INTREPIDITY was but the manifested sentiment of the ancient martyrs, "We ought to obey God rather than man."

(To be continued.)

**Memoir of the Sufferings, &c. of the
American Colonists.**

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 152.)

The Agent, as soon as the force of his disease had so far subsided as to enable him to look abroad, discovered with great satisfaction, that the people had plied their labours with so much diligence, as to produce a wide opening on the whole of the southern quarter of the settlement. The branching tops of the fallen trees formed so perfect an obstruction to the passage of human beings, as nearly to assure the safety of the settlement against an attack from that side. But the want of system in carrying on the diversified services devolving on the people, of whom several were nearly overpowered by an incessant routine of nightly watching and daily labour, had still left the other preparation too little advanced to authorize an opinion of the safety of the place, for an hour. The carpenters, who alone were able to direct or assist in the construction of the gun-carriages, had, for the encouragement and direction of the labourers, given up too much of their time to the common fatigues of the field. The western station, which in the present state of the defence, was obviously the most exposed, not only remained entirely uncovered, but the long revolving nine pounder, which was to constitute its chief strength, was still unmounted.

But the Agent could not walk at this date without support; and with a mind shattered by the strokes of a malady believed to be mortal, could neither decide upon nor enforce, any arrangement which should much accelerate their most essential preparations. But, from this period, his febrile paroxysms were daily less subduing and protracted—and by a recurrence to the journal, it appears, that he was able on the 7th of November, to recommence the daily entries, and thereafter take a daily increasing share in the operations of the people.

It is here proper to return to a period already considerably passed in the foregoing narrative, in order to take a connected view of the movements of the natives; who, without formally denouncing war, had been constantly busied in hostile machinations; which at this date were so far matured, as to want nothing but a proper opportunity of being carried into effect.

It has been seen that out of the dread of provoking Boatswain's resentment, they had reluctantly assumed a show of friendship. But this disguise of the true state of their intentions, was too slight to conceal them from the most superficial observer. Unhappily, the chiefs had attributed the abrupt departure of the Agents to a want of spirit, and a dread of their power: and were naturally stimulated by the absence of so important and formidable a means of defence as was afforded by the two schooners, to make the most of the circumstance, and directly attack the settlement; hoping, if successful, to be able either to bribe, or resist the indignation of king Boatswain.

The arrival of the "Strong," in August, delayed for a while the execution of their purpose. But no sooner had that vessel sailed, about the first of October, than secret meetings for discussing the question of renewing hostilities were again holden. The Agent had arranged a plan for obtaining intelligence, which left him ignorant of none of their movements—and by the singular fidelity and diligence of an individual who has never yet been properly compensated, and whose name it is necessary to conceal, was perfectly informed of the temper and stand of every influential head-man in the country, and often furnished with the very arguments used by them in their debates.

At this time a diversity of views were entertained by the different members of their war-council. It was contended by kings Peter and Bristol, that "The increased numbers of the Colonists, gave them a superiority which would insure their success—that they were not a settlement of foreigners and enemies, but of their countrymen and friends, as was proved by the identity of their colour, and therefore had a right to reside in their country, and might be expected to turn all the civilization which they had learnt abroad, to the improvement of their common country."

Kings George, Governor, and all the other head men of the tribe, contended that "The Americans were strangers who had forgot their attachment to the land of their fathers; for if not, why had they not renounced their connexion with white men altogether, and placed themselves under the protection of the kings of the country? King George had already been under the necessity of removing from his town, and leaving the Cape in their hands. This was but the first step of their encroachments. If left alone, they must, in a very few years, master the whole country. And

as all other places were full, their own tribe must be without a home, and cease any longer to remain a nation. The armed schooners were gone;—the two first Agents had fled also;—the new people could from sickness very little assist the old in the defence of the place; and had brought with them a valuable cargo of stores, which would enrich the conquerors. The White Man was sick; no doubt would die; and the rest were not much superior to an equal number of themselves, and could be easily overcome, either by sudden surprise, or by a wasting and harrassing blockade.”

King Peter presuming still to dissent from the general voice of his chiefs, was principally thro’ the influence of George, obliged to shut his mouth, during all the following deliberations of the assembly. King Bristol returned home.

Messengers were then despatched in every direction, to solicit the aid of the neighbour tribes. The king of Junk refused to take any active part in person, and sent to assure the colony of his neutrality; but did not prohibit his people from following, individually, their own inclinations. A number came to the war.

King Tom of Little Bassä, entirely declined. King Ben of Half C. Mount, and his people came into the conspiracy. Bristol was himself inactive, but many of his people joined the hostile party.

Bä Caiä whose island is overlooked by the settlement, was too much agitated by his fears, to resolve on any decided course. He tarried at home, of course; but many of his people gave themselves to the war.

Bromley, Todo, Governor, Konko, Jimmy, Gray, Long Peter, George and Willy with their entire force, and all king Peter’s warriors, and the auxiliaries already named, were in the last week of October, perfectly combined, and assembled under arms on Bushrod Island, about four miles from the settlement, and on the St. Paul.

Throughout their consultation, they had refused to receive any proposals of a papific nature from the Colony. At length the Agent contrived, through the mediation of Bä Caiä, to say to them, that “He was perfectly apprised of their hostile deliberations, notwithstanding their pains to conceal them; and that, if they proceeded to bring war upon the Americans, without even asking to settle their differences in a friendly manner, they would dearly

learn what it was to fight white men.”* To this message no reply was made.

The activity and masculine eloquence of the indefatigable George, were successfully exerted in generally engaging the fighting people near the theatre of the war. Every day produced a sensible augmentation of their numbers on Bushrod Island.

On the 7th of November, intelligence was received at the Cape that the last measures had been taken preparatory to an assault on the settlement, which was ordered within four days. The plan of attack being left to the head warriors, whose trade it is to concert and conduct it, was not to be learnt.

The Agent was able, with assistance, to inspect the works, and review the little force the same evening. He stated to the people the purport of the intelligence just received; that ‘war was now inevitable; and the preservation of their property, their settlement, their families, and their lives, depended under God, wholly upon their own firmness and good conduct; that a most important point in the defence of the place, was to secure a perfect uniformity of action, which should assure to every post and individual the firm support of every other. To this end, they must as punctiliously obey their officers as if their whole duty were centered, as it probably was, in that one point; and every man as faithfully exert himself, as if the whole defence depended on his single efforts. A coward, it was hoped, did not disgrace their ranks; and as the cause was emphatically that of God and their country, they might confidently expect his blessing and success to attend the faithful discharge of their duty.’—Every thing was then disposed in order of action, and the men marched to their posts. They lay on their arms, with matches lighted, through the night.

On the 8th, the Agent, by an effort which entirely exhausted his strength, proceeded to examine the obstruction thrown in the way of the avenues to the settlement; and perceived to his extreme mortification, that the west quarter was still capable of being approached by a narrow path-way, without difficulty; and that the utmost exertions of the workmen had accomplished only the mounting of the revolving nine pounder at the post; by which the path was enfiladed; but that the platform was still left entirely exposed. The eastern quarter was about equally open to the ap-

* A phrase by which civilized people of all colours and nations are distinguished in the dialect of the coast.

proach of the enemy, but the station was protected by a stockade, and a steep ledge of rocks made the access difficult.

Picket guards of four men each were detailed, to be posted 100 yards in advance of each of the stations, through the night. No man was allowed to sleep before the following day, at sun-rise; and patrols of native Africans were dispersed thro' the woods in every direction. An order was given to families occupying the most exposed houses, to sleep in such as were more centrally situated.*

Throughout the 9th, the order established on the preceding day continued; and some progress made in the labour of falling trees, and otherwise obstructing every practicable access to the settlement.

Sunday, November 10th. The morning was devoted, as usual, to the refreshment of the settlers, none of whom had slept for the 24 hours preceding. At 1 P. M. all were remanded to their fatigue and other duties, till sun-set; when the order appointed for the preceding night was resumed. The women and children attended divine service.

Intelligence had reached the Agent early in the day, that the hostile forces had made a movement, and were crossing the Montserado river a few miles above the settlement; but the patrols made no discovery through the day.—At sun-set, however, the enemy again put themselves in motion, and at an early hour of the night, had assembled, as was afterwards learnt, to the number of six to nine hundred men, on the peninsula, where, at the distance of less than half a mile to the westward of the settlement, they encamped till near morning. Their camp, afterwards examined, extended half a mile in length, and induces a strong probability that the number of warriors assembled on this occasion, has been altogether underrated.†

The most wakeful vigilance on the part of the settlers, was kept up through the night.—But, with a fatality which was quite of a

* In the multitude of cares devolving on the Agent, who dictated most of his instructions from his bed, the measures necessary to secure the proper observance of this order were unhappily omitted; and the rashness of the misguided individuals who disobeyed it, met with a signal punishment.

† The number given above, is deduced from the discordant accounts given by the kings of the country, after the termination of hostilities; some of whom rated it much higher; but all were ignorant of the true number, and all were interested to state it as low as would obtain credit.

piece, with all the hindrances that had impeded the progress of the defences on the western quarter, the picket-guard in advance of that post, ventured on a violation of their orders, by leaving their station, at the first dawn of day; at which it was their duty to remain till sun-rise. The native force was already in motion, and followed directly in the rear of the picket-guard. The latter had just rejoined their gun, about which ten men were now assembled; when the enemy suddenly presenting a front of ten yards in width, at sixty distant, delivered their fire, and rushed forward with their spears to seize the post. Several men were killed and disabled by the first fire, and the remainder driven from their gun without discharging it. Then, retiring upon the centre, (see the arrangement of the guns, p. 150) threw the reserve there stationed, into momentary confusion; and had the enemy at this instant, pressed their advantage, it is hardly conceivable that they should have failed of entire success. Their avidity for plunder was their defeat. Four houses in that outskirt of the settlement, had fallen into their hands. Every man on whose savage rapacity so resistless a temptation happened to operate, rushed impetuously upon the pillage thus thrown in his way. The movement of the main body was disordered and impeded; and an opportunity afforded the Agent, assisted principally by the Rev. Lot Cary, to rally the broken force of the settlers. The two central guns, with a part of their own men, and several who had been driven from the western station, were, with a little exertion, brought back into action, and formed in the line of two slight buildings, thirty yards in advance of the enemy.

The second discharge of a brass field-piece, double-shotted with ball and grape, brought the whole body of the enemy to a stand. That gun was well served, and appeared to do great execution. The havoc would have been greater, had not the fire, from motives of humanity, been so directed as to clear the dwellings about which the enemy's force was gathered in heavy masses. These houses were known at that moment to contain more than twelve helpless women and children.

The eastern and southern posts, were, from their situation, precluded from rendering any active assistance on the occasion; but the officers and men attached to them, deserve the highest praise, of doing their duty by maintaining their stations, and thus pro-

tecting the flank and rear of the few whose lot it was to be brought to action.

A few musketeers with E. Johnson at their head, by passing round upon the enemy's flank, served to increase the consternation which was beginning to pervade their unwieldy body. In about twenty minutes after the settlers had taken their stand, the front of the enemy began to recoil. But from the numerous obstructions in their rear, the entire absence of discipline, and the extreme difficulty of giving a reversed motion to so large a body, a small part only of which was directly exposed to danger, and the delay occasioned by the practice of carrying off all their dead and wounded, rendered a retreat for some minutes longer, impossible. The very violence employed by those in the front, in their impatience to hasten it, by increasing the confusion, produced an effect opposite to that intended. The Americans perceiving their advantage, now regained possession of the western post, and instantly brought the long nine to rake the whole line of the enemy. Imagination can scarcely figure to itself a throng of human beings in a more capital state of exposure to the destructive power of the machinery of modern warfare! Eight hundred men were here pressed shoulder to shoulder, in so compact a form that a child might easily walk upon their heads from one end of the mass to the other, presenting in their rear a breadth of rank equal to twenty or thirty men, and all exposed to a gun of great power, raised on a platform, at only thirty to sixty yards distance! Every shot literally spent its force in a solid mass of living human flesh! Their fire suddenly terminated. A savage yell was raised, which filled the dismal forest with a momentary horror. It gradually died away; and the whole host disappeared. At 8 o'clock the well known signal of their dispersion and return to their homes, was sounded, and many small parties seen at a distance, directly afterwards, moving off in different directions. One large canoe, employed in reconveying a party across the mouth of the Montserado, venturing within the range of the long gun, was struck by a shot, and several men killed.

On the part of the settlers, it was soon discovered that considerable injury had been sustained.

One woman* who had imprudently passed the night in the house

* Mrs. Ann Hawkins; who after long and incredible sufferings recovered, and is yet living.

first beset by the enemy, had received 13 wounds, and been thrown aside as dead. Another,* flying from her house with her two infant children, received a wound in the head, from a cutlass, and was robbed of both her babes; but providentially escaped. A young married woman,† with the mother of five small children, finding the house in which they slept surrounded by savage enemies, barricadoed the door, in the vain hope of safety. It was forced. Each of the women then seizing an axe, held the irresolute barbarians in check for several minutes longer. Having discharged their guns, they seemed desirous of gaining the shelter of the house previous to reloading. At length, with the aid of their spears, and by means of a general rush, they overcame their heroine adversaries, and instantly stabbed the youngest to the heart. The mother, instinctively springing for her suckling babe, which recoiled through fright, and was left behind, rushed thro' a small window on the opposite side of the house, and providentially escaped to the lines, unhurt, between two heavy fires.

The Agent had caused a return‡ to be made at 9 o'clock, which certainly exhibited a melancholy statement of the loss sustained by the little company. But it was animating to perceive that none—not even the wounded in their severest sufferings, were dispirited, or insensible of the signal Providence to which they owed the successful issue of their struggle.

It never has been possible to ascertain the number of the enemy killed or disabled on this occasion. The only entry made on the subject in the Colonial Journal, is dated November 15th; and

* Mrs. Minty Draper.

† Mary Tines.

‡ The following is an abstract of this return:—

Joseph Benson, shot dead in the beginning of the action;

Mary Tines, stabbed to death in her house;

Thomas Spinn, mortally injured by 5 wounds;

Billy, a native African, mortally wounded;

Ann Hawkins, desperately injured by 13 wounds;

Daniel Hawkins, severely do. through the thigh;

James Benson, very severely do. through the shoulder;

Minty Draper, slightly do. in the face and ear;

2 small children of Minty Draper, missing;

5 do. do. (oldest 13 years) of James Benson, do.

15 Whole number of sufferers.

All the moveable effects of five families had fallen into the enemy's hands

states, "The following circumstances prove the carnage to have been, for the number engaged, great. A large canoe, from which the dead and wounded could be seen to be taken, on its arriving at the opposite side of the Montserado, and which might easily carry twelve men, was employed upwards of two hours in ferrying them over. In this time, not less than ten to twelve trips must have been made. It is also known, that many of the wounded were conveyed away along the south beach, on mats: and that the dead left of necessity in the woods, where many fell, are carried off by their friends every night. But two days ago, twenty-seven bodies were discovered by a party of friendly Condoes employed by the Agent for the purpose. On entering the wood, the offensive effluvia from putrid bodies, is at this time intolerable."

The numerical force of the settlers amounted to 35 persons, including 6 native youths not 16 years of age. Of this number, about one half were engaged.

At 9 o'clock, the Agent, after advising with the most sensible mechanics, and others of the settlers, issued an order for contracting the lines, by excluding about one-fourth part of the houses, and surrounding the remainder, including the stores, with a musket-proof stockade; at the angles of which, all the guns were to be posted. The fence palings and building materials of individuals, were taken for this palisade, of which, before night, more than 80 yards were completed.

This work was resumed early the next day, and far advanced towards a completion, before it was judged safe to devote an hour even to the melancholy duty of burying the dead; which was performed on the evening of the 12th.—By contracting the lines, the number of men necessary to guard them, was considerably reduced; and thus a relief for the people obtained, which their sickly and feeble state absolutely called for. As early as the 14th, one-half of their number were released from camp duty, after 8 o'clock in the morning; but every man remanded to his post through the night. An additional gun was mounted and posted on the same day: on the 17th, the artillerists were newly organized; and every day witnessed either some improvements in the discipline of the men, or in the means of defence and annoyance.

It could not fail, in the state of utter abandonment and solitude to which this little company was reduced, to be felt as an encouraging circumstance, that Tom Bassa, a prince of some distinction,

should, at this moment, have sent a message to assure the Colony of his friendship; and in testimony of his sincerity, to have forwarded a small present of the productions of the country.

The inclosure was completed on Sunday morning, the 17th; when about one-half of the people had the privilege of celebrating Divine Service—a privilege which many of them very highly appreciated.

It is not to be either concealed, or made the object of a too severe censure, that several of the people should have yielded, as soon as leisure was afforded for reflection, to the discouraging circumstances of their situation. There were not at this time, exclusive of rice, 15 days' provisions in store. Every individual was subjected to an allowance which could not sustain animal strength, under the burden of so many severe and extraordinary labours. Nothing could be obtained from the country. Seven infant children were in the hands of an enemy infuriated by his recent losses. The native forces were certainly not dispersed; but it was no longer in the Agent's power either to learn the intentions of the chiefs, or convey any message thro' to them. Add to these unpleasant ingredients of their lot, the more cruel circumstance, perhaps of all, that the ammunition of the Colony was insufficient for a single hour's defence of the place if hotly attacked, and an apology may surely be found for the very alarming despondency which was invading the minds of several of the settlers.—It was a happy providence that, at the critical moment, the Agent's health was so far mended as to put it in his power often to attend the men, at their posts and labours, by night and day—to animate them by every method which his invention could suggest—and when these failed, to draw from their despair itself, an argument for a faithful discharge of their duty. In this difficult labour, he was ably and successfully supported by several of the most sensible and influential of the Colonists.

It was the Agent's wish, if possible, to engage the kings in treaty, for a peace. The actual state of the settlement required it; and the common principles of humanity must be sacrificed by any degree of indifference in the matter, as long as so large a number of children belonging to the settlement, were in the hands of an enemy, who in his treatment of them was known to be liable to the extremes of caprice and cruelty. To avert, if possible, from these little sufferers, the effects of their savage indignation, and at the

same time, open a door for friendly negotiation, a message was on the 22d, with some difficulty, got through to the council of native chiefs, who were engaged in debating the question of renewing hostilities, at king Peter's Town. The purport of this communication was, that "The Americans came with friendly intentions—have evinced those friendly attentions in all their intercourse with the people of this country.—Why have you then brought war on us, without any complaint of injury? We are willing to settle a peace. But we are also prepared to carry on the war; and can render it immensely more bloody and destructive than you felt it before." The message left the settlement at 6 o'clock, P. M. and at daylight the next morning, an answer was received, that, "having bought the low land of Bushrod Island, the Americans had seized upon the Cape, without right—that the country people visiting the settlement, had been cheated and roughly used by the store-keeper—that the Agents had not fulfilled their promise of instructing the people. But they would gladly make peace, if satisfaction were offered for these injuries."

(*To be Continued.*)

Latest from Liberia.

To the President of the Board of Managers of the American Colonization Society.

MONROVIA, 10th May, 1826.

REV. SIR:

The full communications made to the Board of Managers by the "Indian Chief," which sailed on the 25th ultimo, might perhaps excuse an omission to write by the present conveyance, via Barbadoes, were it not of some importance to inform the Board that *no important information* of more recent date, occurs for communication.

The governor of Sierra Leone has laid a blockade on the line of coast reaching from that colony to Cape Mount, inclusive; which, while it subjects us to some present inconvenience, promises effectually to destroy—as it has already wholly suspended—the slave-trade, hitherto carried on from Gallinas.—Captains Chase and Coltrell remain in our neighbourhood—and have either captured, or "payed" away every Guineaman known to be on any part of the coast between Cape Palmas and Sierra Leone.—

The effect of these measures is already felt in the Colony. Fowls, vegetables, cattle, and rice, in hitherto unknown abundance, are finding their way to Montserado; the prices of country produce and foreign merchandise, are returning to their former standards; and the coast tribes are looking again after their own resources—a thing their indolence never will undertake, so long as the profit of the trade of slaves passing through their hands, from the interior to the European purchaser, lays them under no necessity to do it.

We have thought proper to interdict this trade on the whole line of coast comprehended between Cape Mount and Trade Town, both inclusive. The ground assumed is that of a qualified jurisdiction, actually held by the Colony over this whole district. It is believed that no slaver coming from Europe, or the West Indies, will proceed to land his cargo (and without landing it, he cannot get slaves) in the face of such an interdict formally notified to him; which we can easily do in all cases.—But, in case his audacity prevails, and goods are landed, we have only to announce to the native chiefs of the place, that, according to the laws of the Colony, those goods are forfeit, and an instant seizure of the whole, in nine out of ten cases, is certain to follow. The public boats now on the stocks, cannot fail to render us the most important service in this business—and our hopes are high, that the world is to hear little or nothing more of the ravages of this detestable and outlawed traffic, from this part of the coast.

It is a circumstance you will learn with pleasure, Sir, that all the late emigrants from North Carolina, amounting to 125 persons, of all ages and habits, have got safely thro' the slight fever which assailed them without a single exception, soon after their arrival. Of the remaining 30, from Virginia and Maryland, one man, from relapsing by his own imprudence after convalescence, has died—and two small children.

The Rev. Mr. Holton is far advanced in convalescence;—and a commodious school-house, of two ground apartments, is building by the people, for two of the schools of the Colony.—A slight receptacle, of sufficient capacity to hold 150 people, was completed two weeks ago; and will furnish dry and comfortable quarters thro' the approaching rains, (which will set in within five to ten days) to all the new settlers not provided for on the St. Paul's. To this accommodation, and the very improved state of our hospital and medical department, must be chiefly attributed, as far

as second causes are to be considered, the very small amount of suffering experienced by these people since their arrival.

Mr. Hodges, the boat builder from Norfolk, has been slightly sick, and is yet too weak to resume his employment. A few days, it is hoped, will restore him to his former health.

For the first time in two years, I am confined wholly to my room, of the effects of an injury I received at Trade Town. The contusion was a little troublesome at first, but I soon, as was supposed, got the better of it, and felt little inconvenience till the 2d of May; when the injury took on every character of an ulcerous affection, and made it necessary to submit to a course of medical treatment, which I fear must be continued for weeks, perhaps months. But my confinement to my office is little or no impediment to the business I have to do; and I have the satisfaction to add, that the public work, in all its parts, never went forward more regularly, or more successfully.

It is my wish to meet every description of expense, necessary to be incurred within the Colony, without troubling the Society with drafts on the treasury: and think I should be able easily to satisfy the gentlemen of the Board, that I have hitherto executed this duty to a very reasonable extent. But, a few light drafts, for aught I can see, must occasionally be made on their funds at home. I have none, however, to make by this conveyance; nor do I know that it will be necessary to do so, for several months to come. But I think it prudent to apprise the Board a little beforehand, of a necessity of so very probable an occurrence.

A large proportion of the fine collection of seeds, which certainly arrived in excellent condition, *are absolutely worthless*, and must have been so before they came into the Society's hands. Our disappointment is severe; it reaches to the Colony's supply of vegetables,—American vegetables particularly, for a whole twelvemonth.—It will be safer, perhaps, to be indebted to the charities of every description of tradesmen, than of the seedsman. A good price paid for *fresh* seeds, will, I think, sir, be found cheaper than such a misfortune as I have just related. A *large* quantity of seeds ought to arrive some time in the winter or spring months. A *small* assortment is useful at any season.

We wait impatiently the arrival of the lumber vessel. Please here acknowledge the donation from Captain John Chase, of the Colombian armed schooner "*Jacinta*," of 30 stands of arms, 8

casks of powder, 2 casks of bread, and 2 casks of salted provisions.—(The two last articles were the subsistence of our troops on the expedition to Trade Town.)

Respectfully, Reverend Sir,

Your obed't and humble serv't,

J. ASHMUN.

REQUISITION.

An abundant supply of domestic manufactured cottons;

Agricultural tools—particularly grubbing and N. England hoes;—axes, broad and narrow,—picks, and bill hooks;

Other tools and implements in common use—particularly hand-saws, drawing-knives, hammers, files, bench-planes, gimblets, (large and small,) augurs, cross-cut saws;

Molasses—a large supply.

I do not advise that these articles should wholly take the place of any other, as in the excellent assortment sent out per the "Indian Chief." But that they be considered in all shipments, as *leading articles*, and that a larger relative quantity be hereafter sent, than ever has been done.—The Board, if peculiarly acquainted with our habits, and the circumstances of the colony, would perceive, that the above list comprehends most of those things which are of the first necessity to the great labouring body of the Colonists; consequently, most in demand, and forming of itself, an assortment in some sense complete.—*Lumber* must, however, have a place in all requisitions.

J. A.

Thoughts on Slavery.

The following extract is from a pamphlet by the celebrated Dr. Chalmers. The plan developed and recommended coincides remarkably with that proposed by Mr. Schoolcraft: "and as to the experimental soundness of it," Dr. C. remarks in an advertisement prefixed to the pamphlet itself, "we have the testimony of Humboldt, who, in the course of his travels through the Spanish part of South America, saw whole villages of emancipated negroes, who had achieved their liberation in the way that is here delineated."

"It were a noble achievement, this conversion of slaves into freemen; and therefore the more important for its ultimate success, that in every step of its prosecution there should be an even-

handed justice to all the parties concerned. More especially, would it serve to accredit the philanthropy that is now so widely and so warmly embarked upon this undertaking, did they who advocate its designs also bear their part in the expenses of them; and it would do much to allay the fermentation that now is among the West India planters, could they have any satisfying demonstration from Parliament, that, however intent on the emancipation of their slaves, it should be so devised and carried into effect as not to infringe on the present worth of their patrimony.

The following suggestion is the more valuable that it hath come from a gentleman who is himself a very extensive West India proprietor; and that, while it holds out a complete remuneration to the owners of slaves, promises the conveyance of them into a state of freedom with a speed and a safety that ought to satisfy the most sanguine abolitionist.

The scheme may be expressed generally thus:—Let government purchase from the West India proprietors, at a fair valuation, one day's labour in the week of all the slaves in their possession. This can be done by paying one-sixth of their whole price; after which, each slave hath at least one day every week, in which he is a free labourer, and might earn for himself. He of course becomes the absolute owner of what he thus earns; and let it be competent for him, when it has accumulated to a sufficient sum, therewith to purchase, at a certain regulated price, another free day in the week. Having thus two days to himself, he is able to accelerate his future purchases of freedom; and thus, as the fruit of his own industry and care, might he, in a very few years, work out his complete emancipation.

Or the scheme may be made still more intelligible when illustrated by numbers. Let the whole slave population of the British colonies be 800,000. At £50 each, which is a high estimate when thus made to include all ages, the sixth part of their whole value to the owners is short of seven millions. By funding this sum to the credit of the proprietors, one day's free labour to each slave might become the universal law of the British West Indies. The registry of slaves gives every facility for assigning the shares of this stock to the respective proprietors, whether they be principals or mortgagees upon the estates. And when once this arrangement is made, a patent and a practicable way is opened for the full deliverance of the negroes from a state of slavery. Whole gangs are

not unfrequently hired out at 3s. 4d. currency a head per day, and their maintenance: and there can be no doubt, from the difference between free and forced labour, that an ordinary working slave could earn for himself, on the day that is his own, at least 3s. 4d. sterling.* This sum weekly is more than £8 a year, or about a sixteenth part, perhaps, of his whole value; and for which last sum, therefore, he could, in less than three years, purchase another free day each week. With the earnings of two free days, he could, in another three years, purchase two more, and then, in a year and a half, could work out the freedom of his whole week, or his entire emancipation. At all events, in seven or eight years, each individual, if in health and full strength, could work out his own deliverance from slavery; after which he might proceed to do the same for others of his family, if he has one. The freedom of a woman, when once accomplished in this way, would, by the existing law, secure the freedom of all the children that are afterwards born by her; and this would be of prime importance in extending the work of emancipation. The process is easily apprehended; and seems to meet all the formidable difficulties, and to combine all the most desirable advantages both to the slave and to his proprietor."

Address of C. C. Harper.

Extract from a late Address of Charles Carroll Harper to the voters of Baltimore.

"Another measure to which I wish to devote as much of my time as my business will allow, and all the means at my command, is African Colonization. For several years the subject of abolition of slavery has been brought before you. I am decidedly opposed to the project recommended. No scheme of abolition will meet my support, that leaves the emancipated blacks among us. Experience has proved, that they become a corrupt and degraded class, as burthensome to themselves as they are hurtful to the rest of society. Shut out from the privileges of citizens, separated from us by the insurmountable barrier of colour, they can never amalga-

* It should be remarked, however, that free negroes are hired at rates which are exceedingly various in the different colonies.

mate with us, but must remain forever a distinct and inferior race, repugnant to our republican feelings, and dangerous to our republican institutions. To transfer them from slavery into such a condition, would be a mockery of freedom. To set them free without the consent of their owners, would be a violation of the rights of property. To release them from the restraint of servitude, and turn them loose to prey upon a society which they can never constitute or benefit, would be inconsistent with their happiness and ours. Free blacks are a greater nuisance than even slaves themselves.* To abolish slavery effectually, we must prepare the means of removal for the blacks.

I am, therefore, my fellow-citizens, decidedly opposed to so rash and incomplete a scheme of abolition. But if there is any project of which I wish to be considered as the advocate, it is this: the gradual emancipation of the blacks, and their immediate removal, with their own consent and that of their masters, to the coast of Africa, or elsewhere if they prefer it. That slavery should exist among us is a foul reproach; but our safety requires that it be abolished gradually. To permit the blacks to remain amongst us, after their emancipation, would be to aggravate and not to cure the evil. The only effectual remedy, in my opinion, is to remove them immediately, as they gradually obtain their freedom by gift or purchase or in the natural course of things. There are now at least five thousand free blacks in the city of Baltimore. We can make it their interest to remove. Every thing urges them to go. By their departure, thousands of places will be opened for our fellow citizens who are in want of employment. Into these vacant places, will immediately rush a white and more wholesome species of population. Industry will be encouraged, misery alleviated, the city strengthened: and thus humanity will work its own reward.—The blacks we can provide with a home on the coast of Africa, whence they originally came, and where they may become, after their long captivity and dispersion, a flourishing and enlightened people, and enjoy under our protection, the free institutions we have taught them to admire.

This is the scheme which I shall, if elected, press upon the nation through the medium of our legislature. If the general govern-

* This is speaking generally. There are many free blacks, who are honorable, honest, and enlightened, and for whom I entertain a sincere respect. Such of them as are otherwise, may justly ascribe it to their situation.

ment cannot be prevailed on to adopt so rational and philanthropic a design, then should Maryland, alone, strive to rid herself, at least, of the disease and crime of slavery. She is competent to the task.

[FROM THE NEW-YORK SPECTATOR.]

Plea for the American Colonization Society.

We have perused with no inconsiderable pleasure, a sermon under the above title, preached in St. George's Church in this city on the 9th inst. by the Rev. Dr. Milnor, and published for the benefit of the Society. "Ethiopia shall soon stretch out her hands unto God," (Psalm LXVIII. 31,) is the appropriate text selected for the occasion; and, whatever may be the differences of opinion respecting the Society, as a means of the ultimate emancipation of the great body of slaves whose bondage disgraces our land, all who peruse this discourse will agree, that in the present instance an eloquent pen and a benevolent heart, have been exerted in its behalf. After a suitable exordium, in which the author dwells with peculiar satisfaction upon the cheering promise of the text, "the fulfilment of which is to usher in the latter day glory of the church," he briefly recapitulates the history of the Society, the difficulties encountered in its formation—the discouragements and obstacles which have since been happily surmounted, and the promising state of the Colony at Liberia, at the date of the latest advices, the reasons are presented why the Society deserves "the patronage of every patriot, philanthropist, and christian in our country." Having stated the plan of the Society, the author proceeds to advocate its claims under these three general heads, or divisions, as follows:—1st. "To the *patriot*, to the man who loves his country, and is ready to give his heart and hand to every effort calculated to advance her prosperity, the Colonization of the free people of colour commends itself to our approbation and support, because it will promote the public good." 2d. The cause of African Colonization is commended to the *philanthropist*, "because it is an undertaking of undoubted benevolence." 3d. With equal confidence it is commended to the regards of the *christian*, "because

under the Divine blessing, it will greatly extend the kingdom of Christ." We might make extracts which would be read with interest, from the discussions of each of these heads, but they would necessarily be copious, and perhaps would therefore injure the sale—a result which would be injurious to the funds of the society. Suffice it then to say, that the several considerations are all treated with ability, and in a manner which bespeak feelings of elevated and enlightened benevolence.

[FROM THE RICHMOND FAMILY VISITOR.]

Colonization Society of Mangohick, King William County.

At a meeting of this society, on the 4th of July, Mr. A. Broaddus delivered an address, appropriate to the occasion, considered both as the anniversary of our Independence and the meeting of the society.

The members then convened, when the report of the managers was read and adopted; and contributions were received amounting to between forty and fifty dollars. The unfavourable aspect of the day operated considerably against the meeting, and consequently the amount of the collection was much smaller than was to have been expected.

The society then took into consideration the proposal, from the parent society, to present memorials to the different state legislatures, as well as one to the general government of the U. States, for furthering and promoting the object in view; whereupon it was resolved, that we heartily concur in the expediency of this measure, and adopt, with this view, the form recommended by the parent society.

John Roane, Esq. Doct. Wm. B. Westmore, and Maj. Thomas Dabney, were appointed a committee to confer with other auxiliary societies of this state, on the most advisable method for carrying the resolution just mentioned into effect.

It was resolved, that the secretary prepare a sketch of the proceedings of this meeting, to be published in some of the public prints, with an abstract of Mr. Broaddus's address, and the report of the managers.

J. Roane, Esq. was appointed President of the society for the ensuing year; R. B. Semple, and Adw. Broaddus, Vice-Presidents; C. W. Taliaferro, Secretary; and Dr. Wm. Gwathmey, Treasurer; the other managers were also appointed; and then the meeting adjourned.

REPORT.

The officers and managers of *The King William Union Colonization Society*, in resigning the trust committed to them, to those who gave it, feel that it would be doing injustice to their constituents, to the cause in which they are engaged, and to their own feelings, were they to content themselves with simply detailing their own operations as servants to the society. They feel that, at this time, there is a peculiar propriety in recurring to first principles, and considering the motives which originally prompted to the formation, not only of this society, but of every one which has engaged in the same humane, benevolent, and politic enterprise.

They conceive also, that it will be particularly proper to advert to the operations of the parent society, and to dwell, a little in detail, on the interesting facts presented in the reports and other communications from that society, as also to take a view of the prospective operations of that institution.

And first, as to the motives which have prompted us and others to engage in this enterprise; we say, we believe they are founded on those great principles of *moral right*, which, while they dictate to us to render to all their dues, while they recognize the exercise of humanity and benevolence, as incumbent upon us, do, at the same time, comport with our best interest, considered in its most comprehensive views. What is the object aimed at? That which has been professed by the parent society from the time of its formation till this time—the colonization upon the coast of Africa, of the free people of colour in the United States, with their own consent; and of such as may be emancipated by their owners, or by the laws of the several states, upon condition of their uniting in such a colony. Is there an individual who, acquainted with the situation of that portion of the people of colour among us, called free, will not say, that surely the purpose of giving them a country to themselves, one in which each individual shall enjoy, to its full extent, liberty, both civil and religious, is a humane, a benevolent one? Occupying a station of inferiority and of disability, in regard to most of those things which are calculated to prompt the noble aspirings of the soul, they in most instances, dash from their lips that portion of the cup of blessings which they are permitted to enjoy; they grope out a life of indolence and ignorance, and grovel in the dust of sensuality and vice.

Such has hitherto been their situation, such it now is, and such it is likely to continue while they remain among us; for, our own interest, during this state of things, seems not likely to be promoted by elevating them in the scale of being. The character of this portion of our population being such, the moral and physical state of our country, so far from receiving any improvement from them, is injured in proportion to their number; and there-

fore it is urged, nay, it must be apparent to all, that we shall be benefited by being separated from them, as well as that their best interests will thus be promoted.

In fine, upon this part of the subject, we cannot but think, that this plan, if examined with a liberal, candid, and unprejudiced mind, recommends itself to us by every consideration, both of right and of interest.

Secondly, as to the operations, &c. of the parent institution.—Something like ten years have elapsed, since the formation of this society; and since that time, they have prosecuted, with undeviating aim, the grand object proposed; they have purchased a territory on the coast of Africa, proved to be well calculated for the intended purpose, and have succeeded in establishing a colony. The number of colonists amounts, at this time, to about 420, and is every year receiving additions, by the emigration of free people of colour from the United States, many of whom have gone from this our native state.

The plans of the society are no longer problematical. It is found that territory may be obtained, and, indeed, since the original purchase, considerable additions have been made by purchase, to the landed possessions of the colony: and, from present appearances, there seems no reasonable prospect that the operations of the society, will be impeded for the want of territory; at least for a long time to come. Actual experiment has likewise proved, that people of colour enjoy remarkably good health in Africa. From the communications received, we are warranted in the belief, that few, if any, colonial establishments have ever succeeded better, or been brought in a shorter time, into something like a prosperous and comfortable state. Enjoying those blessings for the attainment of which they left these their native shores, the colonists are rapidly advancing in those improvements which are calculated to make their "desert blossom as the rose," at the same time that they bestow an enlightened and liberal attention on improvements, moral, civil, and religious.

A recent communication from Mr. Ashmun, the agent in Liberia, presents, under separate heads, a view of the health, the civil state, and the agriculture of the colony; the means of the colonists to obtain the comforts of life, and acquire property, the buildings and other works of construction, the means of literary and other kinds of mental improvement, the defensive force of the colony, their religious character, their morals, accessions of territory, new establishments connected with the colony, and the relations of the colony with the neighbouring tribes. This able and interesting communication gives to the friends of the institution strong reason to believe, that their most sanguine hopes and expectations will be fully realized.

The consideration that the cost of transporting emigrants to the colony, has diminished from about fifty, to twenty dollars, and the prospect of a farther diminution, are particularly encouraging to the friends of this institution. There have been during the last year, considerable accessions to the number of auxiliary societies:—In Virginia there were 23, Maryland, 8, New-York, 8, Pennsylvania, 1, North Carolina, 7, Georgia, 3, Kentucky, 1, Delaware, 2, Vermont, 1, New-Jersey, 1, New-Hampshire, 1, Maine, 1; making an aggregate

of 57 auxiliary societies, according to the last account furnished by the parent society. Upon the whole, notwithstanding the open, and we may say violent opposition of some, the fears and jealousies of more, and the coldness and indifference of others, we believe that the plans and operations of this institution, are recommending themselves rapidly to the American people, and acquiring to it daily more and more friends. Indeed such has been the success of the society, that they now feel themselves authorized to come out more publicly, and address memorials to the different state governments and to congress, praying them to grant it their countenance and aid, in the manner which to them may seem most expedient. Copies of the memorial to the several state governments have been forwarded to the auxiliary societies, with the view of obtaining their co-operation, and we have this day the honour of submitting one to the consideration of this society. It will appear, by reference to the proceedings of the parent society, that it has from the beginning, looked to the power and resources of the nation for the full accomplishment of the grand object aimed at. To this patronage as well as to the best wishes of all the benevolent, we think the institution has a fair claim, independent of the principal object of its formation. The Colony of Liberia occupies the place of a sentinel and an auxiliary, in the suppression of the *slave trade*; and already has the general government witnessed the efficacy of exertions from that quarter, in checking the progress of that iniquitous and revolting commerce. We mention this, however, only by the way; and hope that the leading object of this institution will be considered as entitled to the best wishes and best efforts of the nation at large. The utmost of what could be effected by private charity is now nearly attained. Through its instrumentality, it has been shown, that territory may be obtained in Africa, and that a colony may be successfully sustained there: and when we reflect that the plans of this society are in perfect coincidence with the prevailing sentiments of Virginia, expressed through her legislature for a length of time past, and that moreover the legislature has in two successive sessions made appropriations to the society, we are warranted in the conclusion that the application to our legislature will not be unavailing. It is for us now to say, whether we will concur with the parent society in the memorial to the legislature of our state. Are we convinced that the cause in which we are engaged, is one in which the general interests of the several states constituting our union, as also those of humanity, are involved?—surely we shall not be backward in lending our co-operation to the plan of addressing a memorial to the legislature of our state. Let us not be lukewarm in a cause which recommends itself to us by so many interesting considerations; but let us with heart and hand promptly aid the parent institution in its important operations.

On *this day* which should recal to our minds the noble sacrifices and glorious achievements of our ancestors, having, for their object, the moral and political improvement of our country; let us not be content with merely contemplating and celebrating their noble deeds, but let us emulate their bright example; let us show that we have imbibed in their purity, and that we cherish, in our hearts and minds, those glorious moral and political principles,

which they fought, and bled, and died to establish and maintain. Let us show ourselves disposed to follow those principles out to their legitimate issue.

In reference to our operations, we have only to say that we have promptly remitted to the parent society nearly the whole amount of funds which have come into the hands of the treasurer. We have sixty-six members enrolled on the list of the society. We judged it best to retain a small part of the funds, that, in the event of our meeting with an individual among us, who might be disposed to become a member of the colony, we might secure him a passage by appropriating that amount which, according to the arrangements of the parent society, would entitle us to claim a passage for such an individual. Our secretary, some time since, received a letter from the resident agent (Mr. Gurley,) informing us that the society was in great want of money, in order to defray the expenses incurred by the late transportation of colonists, &c. From the low state of the funds, however, we were induced to postpone a remittance till after our annual meeting, from which we have hoped that our treasury would be so far replenished, that we might be enabled to make something like a respectable contribution.

American Colonization Society.

We rejoice that the cause in which the Colonization Society is embarked, is reviving in the state of New-York. The visit of the resident agent to that part of the United States, has been attended with great advantage, as will appear from the record of the proceedings of a public meeting held in one of the churches of New-York. The account is taken from the "New-York Observer."

It will be seen by the annexed official notice, that a public meeting was held in Dr. Spring's Church, Beekman-street, on Wednesday evening last, to consider and aid the objects of the American Colonization Society. The views of the progress and hopes of the Institution were unfolded to the meeting by the Resident Agent of the Society from Washington, and a discussion of considerable interest excited in reference to the practicability of the proposed plans for colonization. The resolutions, adopted with but little opposition, show that the objects of this Society receive the cordial approbation of many of our enlightened and virtuous citizens, and that they consider them as presenting an immediate and urgent claim to the public liberality. We hope that the meeting may be succeeded by very important results. Should collections be taken up in the churches of our city, pecuniary aid would not be the only benefit realized. The clergy would find an appropriate occasion for explaining and enforcing the purposes of the Society, and for

impressing their importance upon the public mind. We rejoice in the conviction, that the friends of Africa are becoming daily more numerous and active, and in the hope that the Colonization Society will soon receive the patronage and support of the nation. The Society propose, we understand, to send one or two vessels with emigrants immediately to Liberia, if adequate means are obtained; and we trust that our citizens will cheerfully and generously contribute to accomplish so desirable a purpose.

At a numerous and respectable meeting held in the brick Presbyterian Church, August 16th, 1826, for the purpose of devising measures for aiding the American Colonization Society, the Rev. Dr. JAMES MILNOR was appointed Chairman, and Dr. JOHN B. BECK, Secretary.

The Rev. Mr. GURLEY, resident agent of the Colonization Society, having addressed the meeting, and given an interesting account of the origin and present condition of the Colony established on the coast of Africa; it was

Resolved, That in the opinion of this meeting, the American Society for Colonizing the free people of colour of the United States, is an Institution founded upon just, humane, patriotic and Christian principles, and is therefore entitled to the countenance and support of the community and nation.

Resolved, That to aid the Society in the important purpose of sending additional emigrants to Liberia the present season, a subscription be opened, and that the funds thus raised, be paid over to the treasurer of the New-York Auxiliary Colonization Society.

Resolved, That this meeting respectfully recommend that collections be taken up for this Society in the several churches of this city, and that Messrs. William B. Crosby, the Rev. Dr. M'Murray, George Gallagher, Garritt N. Bleeker, and John Nitchie, be a committee to adopt such measures as they judge best to carry into effect these resolutions.

Resolved, That the proceedings of this meeting be published in the prints of this city.

JAMES MILNOR, *Chairman.*

JOHN B. BECK, *Secretary.*

The list of Donations, unavoidably omitted in this number, will be inserted in the next.